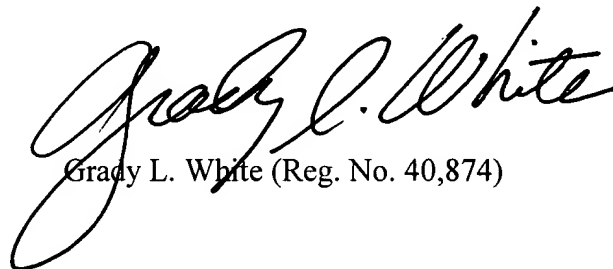


These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. A separate sheet is attached to reflect the revisions to page 1, paragraph 1, of the specification.

***Conclusion***

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 24, 2001

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**Mark-Up Sheet Reflecting Amendments to the Specification for  
Continuation of Application No. 09/288,622, filed May 24, 2001**

[In connection with this application, priority is claimed] The present application is a continuation of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/288,622, filed April 9, 1999, which claims priority to the following provisional applications: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR NETWORK CONFIGURATION MANAGEMENT, U.S. Serial No. 60/121,425, filed February 23, 1999, and SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR NETWORK MANAGEMENT, U.S. Serial No. 60/121,429, filed February 23, 1999.--